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FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5502

UNCLAS KHARTOUM 002802

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SENSITIVE

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FOR DS/IP/AF, DS/DSS/ITA, AF/SPG, AF/RSA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [PREL](#) [OPDP](#) [CASC](#) [SU](#)

SUBJECT: KHARTOUM - EAC MEETING ON POSSIBLE ATTACK ON EL
FASHER

¶1. On December 5, 2006 an EAC meeting was held at Embassy Khartoum. Present were DCM, POL, MGT, RSO, PAO, CON, USAID, JLE and RAO. The subject was the threat of imminent attack on the capital city of North Darfur State, El Fasher by combined forces of SLA/M and NRF as a follow-up to recent skirmishes between janjaweed and the rebel forces in the town of El Fasher. Post Management and RSO, working with the JLE representative, had already ordered all official Americans and Embassy employees in El Fasher to seek safe haven in Nyala, South Darfur, and the EAC received confirmation of their successful departure from El Fasher during the meeting.

¶2. The consensus of the EAC was to validate the Post's actions in ordering the employees to a safe haven area and to request the issuance of a new warden message.

¶3. The EAC also discussed how the possible attack on El Fasher might affect the upcoming visit of Special Envoy Natsios to Post, and the possibility of a ripple effect in the other Darfur state capitals and Khartoum. No additional action in Khartoum or the other main Darfur cities was called for at this time. Post will re-evaluate based on what happens in El Fasher in the next 24 to 48 hours.

HUME